

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 29 are pending in the application, of which claims 1 and 26 are independent. Favorable reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Initially, the specification has been amended to correct an error in the translation. Specifically, "silicone" has been replaced with "silicon" throughout the specification. A similar correction has been made to claim 17. In view of these amendments, withdrawal of the outstanding objections to the specification and to claim 17 is respectfully requested.

Turning to the art rejections, claims 1 to 7, 10 to 23, and 25 to 29 were rejected over U.S. Patent No. 6,889,155 (Ogino); claim 8 was rejected over Ogino in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,955,948 (Asahi); claim 9 was rejected over Ogino in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,338,207 (Figueroa); and claim 24 was rejected over Ogino in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,757,178 (Okabe).

Applicant notes that all of the art rejections require Ogino. Applicant further notes that Ogino is not prior art to the subject application. More specifically, the earliest possible effective date of Ogino, namely October 3, 2002, is after the earliest priority date of the subject application, namely June 25, 2002. Furthermore, Applicant notes that the Japanese application, from which Ogino claims priority, was published on April 18, 2003. A copy of the Abstract for that application, which shows the publication date, is enclosed. This date is also after the June 25, 2002 priority date for the subject application.

Since Ogino is not prior art, and since all of the rejections require Ogino, Applicant submits that all of the rejections are improper and should be withdrawn. Nevertheless, Applicant has amended claim 1, as shown above, to clarify what is meant by an integrated impedance converter. In particular, Applicant has made this amendment to further distinguish claim 1 from

a conventional impedance matching device, which endeavors to match an impedance to a reference impedance, but which, in some cases, may result in slightly different impedances.

Claim 1, and the remaining claims, are believed to be patentable.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Please charge any additional fees, not already covered by check, or credit any overpayment, to deposit account 06-1050, referencing Attorney Docket No. 14219-075US1.


Applicant's attorney can be reached at the address shown above. Telephone calls regarding this application should be directed to 617-521-7896.

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Respectfully submitted,

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